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INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN MEAT DECREASES IN 1951 1/

International trade in meat in 1951, exclusive of Asia and minor meat-trading countries, was slightly below that of 1950 and substantially below the annual averages for 1946-50 and 1934-38 according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

In 1950, as in 1948 and 1949, reduced exportable surpluses tended to reduce international trade in meat. In many of the major exporting countries, production has decreased and domestic consumption has increased. This reduced supply has been offset to a considerable extent in many of the importing countries by increased domestic production.

MEAT 1/: International trade by areas, averages
1934-38 and 1946-50, annual 1950-1951.

Continent or area	Average		Average							
	1934-38		1946-50 <u>2/</u>		1950 <u>2/</u>		1951 <u>2/</u>			
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
N. America <u>3/</u>	308	295	770	250	316	431	334	631		
Europe	1,046	3,823	574	3,932	1,174	3,510	1,467	2,876		
U.S.S.R.	8	6	<u>4/</u>	67	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>		
S. America	2,035	3	1,733	3	1,383	<u>4/</u>	1,228	<u>4/</u>		
Africa	63	20	56	22	39	6	38	15		
Oceania	1,090	-	1,273	-	1,230	-	966	-		
Total <u>5/</u>	4,550	4,147	4,417	4,274	4,142	3,947	4,033	3,522		

1/ All meats converted to a carcass weight equivalent - includes beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, goat and horse meat, excludes live animals, edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Excludes exports of horse meat from the United States, which averaged 2 million pounds in 1935-39, 66 million in 1946-50, 33 million in 1949, 15 million in 1950, and 22 million in 1951. 4/ Not available. 5/ Imports do not balance with exports as trade statistics of some countries, especially small importing countries, do not show separately meat import figures. Also in postwar years some countries have not published trade statistics.

1/ World meat production for 1951 was summarized in Foreign Crops and Markets, June 2, 1952 and World Hog Numbers, World Cattle Numbers and World Sheep Numbers were summarized in Foreign Crops and Markets, dated March 24, April 7, and April 21, 1952, respectively.

It is estimated that in 1951 beef and veal accounted for 50 percent of the total meat trade, pork accounted for 30 percent and mutton and lamb accounted for 17 percent. The trade of the major exporting and importing countries for these three categories of meat is shown in the accompanying table.

MEAT 1/: International trade, by types, in the principal countries, 1951.

Country	: Beef and : : veal :	: Pork : : (excl. lard):	: Mutton : : and lamb :	: Other 2/ : :	: Total
	: Mil. lbs.:	: Mil. lbs.:	: Mil. lbs.:	: Mil. lbs.:	: Mil. lbs.:
Exports by principal supplying countries					
Canada	: 94 :	: 33 :	: 3 :	: 3 :	: 133
Mexico	: 92 :	: - :	: - :	: 3/ :	: 92
Denmark 4/	: 242 :	: 577 :	: 3/ :	: 3/ :	: 819
France	: 21 :	: 81 :	: - :	: 45 :	: 147
Iceland	: - :	: - :	: 2 :	: - :	: 2
Ireland	: 98 :	: 4 :	: 4 :	: - :	: 106
Netherlands	: 19 :	: 103 :	: 7 :	: 3/ :	: 129
Poland 5/	: - :	: 106 :	: - :	: - :	: 106
Yugoslavia	: 3/ :	: 2 :	: - :	: - :	: 2
Argentina	: 860 :	: 30 :	: 60 :	: - :	: 950
Brazil	: 38 :	: 1 :	: 1 :	: - :	: 40
Chile	: - :	: - :	: 1 :	: - :	: 1
Paraguay 5/	: 15 :	: - :	: - :	: - :	: 15
Uruguay	: 211 :	: 3/ :	: 11 :	: - :	: 222
Madagascar	: 21 :	: 3/ :	: - :	: - :	: 21
Southern Rhodesia	: 7 :	: - :	: - :	: - :	: 7
Australia	: 266 :	: 24 :	: 47 :	: 29 :	: 366
New Zealand 6/	: 125 :	: 20 :	: 450 :	: 5 :	: 600
Total exports	: 2,109 :	: 981 :	: 586 :	: 82 :	: 3,758
Imports by principal deficit countries					
United States	: 468 :	: 51 :	: 7 :	: - :	: 526
Cuba	: 3/ :	: 25 :	: - :	: - :	: 25
Austria	: 1 :	: 4 :	: - :	: 3/ :	: 5
Belgium	: 33 :	: 5 :	: 2 :	: 31 :	: 71
Germany-Western	: 38 :	: 77 :	: 3/ :	: 24 :	: 139
Greece	: - :	: - :	: - :	: 14 :	: 14
Italy	: 69 :	: 6 :	: 3/ :	: 9 :	: 84
Sweden	: 27 :	: 7 :	: - :	: - :	: 34
Switzerland	: 6 :	: 4 :	: - :	: 9 :	: 19
United Kingdom 7/	: 777 :	: 982 :	: 591 :	: - :	: 2,350
Union of So. Africa 6/	: 13 :	: 3/ :	: 2 :	: 3/ :	: 15
Total imports	: 1,432 :	: 1,161 :	: 602 :	: 87 :	: 3,282

1/ Carcass weight basis - excludes live animals, edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Includes fresh and frozen meat, n.e.s., canned meat, n.e.s., goat and horse meat. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ Includes carcass weight equivalent of live animal exports. 5/ Estimated - based on imports into receiving countries reporting imports by origin. 6/ Partially estimated. 7/ Includes edible offal.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, August 4, 1952.

In North America both exports and imports of meat were above those of 1950 and of prewar years. In Canada exports decreased and imports increased considerably while in the United States both exports and imports increased. In Mexico exports, although more than double those of 1950, were much less than in 1949.

In Europe, exports increased markedly in Denmark, Ireland, Germany and the Netherlands and decreased in France, Italy and the United Kingdom. Imports increased significantly in Belgium, France and Italy and decreased in Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

In South America exports of meat continued the downward trend from the peak of 1947. For the 5 major exporting countries of South America, meat exports in 1950 were only 60 percent of the prewar average.

In Africa exports in 1951 were about the same as in 1950 but only about 60 percent of prewar. Exports in 1951 showed a significant decrease in the Union of South Africa because of severe droughts and a large quantity of meat was imported.

In Oceania, exports were below those of 1950 and prewar due to the large decrease in shipments from Australia where prolonged, severe droughts reduced meat production.

Europe continues to be the major importing area for meat but in 1951 it replaced South America as the major exporting area. Argentina, Denmark, New Zealand, Australia and Uruguay continue as the major exporting countries but only Denmark showed a significant increase in exports over 1950. The United Kingdom continues as the major importer of meat, with the United States second and Germany, Canada, Belgium and Italy being important markets.

Indications are that in 1952 meat trade will be at about 1951 levels except in Canada where the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease disrupted meat trade. Despite increased production in many countries, the major meat producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, except for New Zealand, have suffered from extensive droughts and meat production will be slow in recovering in those areas. --Prepared by Louis M. Smith, based in part on United States Foreign Service Reports.

MEAT 1/: International trade, averages 1934-38 and 1946-50, annual 1949-1951

Continent and country	Average 1934-38		Average 1946-50		1949		1950		1951	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
NORTH AMERICA										
Canada 3/4/	193,436	24,568	370,403	16,427	201,270	32,851	188,084	39,117	133,000	78,700
Mexico.....	23	1,130	56,712	732	126,953	337	42,481	388	92,275	326
United States 2/5/.....	114,600	262,000	343,000	209,300	97,400	242,000	85,700	368,400	109,000	526,200
Cuba.....	82	7,302	6/4	23,800	16	22,201	7/	23,200	7/	25,400
Estimated total.....	308,100	295,000	770,100	250,300	425,600	297,400	316,300	431,100	334,300	630,600
EUROPE										
Austria.....	760	13,097	750	8/37,175	1	23,603	47	10,975	4,965	5,417
Belgium.....	54,501	6,790	25,249	190,259	22,199	120,171	43,235	49,429	44,985	70,573
Bulgaria 9/.....	4,715	—	6/10/500	6/8/400	7/	1,100	10/1,000	7/	10/100	7/
Czechoslovakia 9/.....	637	5,275	10/2,500	6/8/72,000	10/4,500	59,000	10/8,100	7/	10/3,300	8/8,600
Denmark 3/11/.....	573,200	900	354,800	685	349,660	2,247	654,540	990	818,800	443
Finland.....	6,435	1,257	2,836	5,469	12,062	87	2,101	—	1,570	2,817
France.....	4,698	51,958	42,517	111,825	44,801	30,167	154,679	22,253	146,000	81,000
Germany 12/.....	4,148	156,081	1,380	8/141,600	2,000	195,900	4,950	276,004	72,353	138,788
Greece.....	—	2,689	—	8/32,100	—	14,427	—	18,354	—	13,807
Hungary.....	18,203	—	6/10/3,300	6/8/1,400	10/2,800	7/	10/3,700	7/	10/2,200	8/600
Iceland.....	6,248	8	1,244	12	28	1	111	33	1,995	440
Ireland.....	70,881	40	53,321	—	51,434	—	80,108	—	106,512	—
Italy.....	11,597	73,542	7,258	55,864	14,442	69,286	16,306	48,425	13,413	84,139
Netherlands.....	85,571	21,974	29,205	59,371	41,060	85,490	84,942	28,797	129,008	28,610
Norway.....	2,244	4,378	437	5,866	389	9,603	692	594	2,615	2,060
Poland 9/.....	113,490	62	10/34,000	8/64,400	10/48,000	12,700	10/97,100	7/	10/106,400	8/2,000
Portugal.....	936	525	1,567	7,715	2,395	1,327	716	2,422	2,184	3,557
Rumania 9/.....	6,179	—	6/10/1,600	6/8/800	10/4,500	7/	10/2,000	7/	10/200	7/
Spain 13/.....	2,666	4,733	232	25,694	309	141	340	19	374	1,201
Sweden 3/.....	31,097	14,914	505	30,108	531	31,468	1,304	51,681	4,700	33,700
Switzerland.....	1,350	8,515	1,199	26,519	3,341	20,140	189	20,284	611	19,097
United Kingdom 14/.....	28,008	3,455,910	2,026	3,033,477	1,644	2,619,625	2,124	2,976,005	2,285	2,350,311
Yugoslavia.....	18,901	—	10/7,900	6/8/26,000	10/1,000	7/	16,165	1,997	2,194	—
Estimated total.....	1,046,500	3,822,600	574,400	3,931,600	607,100	3,300,100	1,174,500	3,510,400	1,466,800	2,876,000
U.S.S.R. 9/	8,295	6,213	7/	6/8/67,100	7/	9,000	7/	7/	7/	7/

SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina.....	1,460,045	-	1,308,900	-	1,160,000	-	1,000,000	-	950,000	-	7/	7/	7/	7/
Brazil.....	213,538	2,563	134,737	6/	95,717	1,214	66,141	7/	39,558	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/
Chile.....	20,977	70	12,438	6/	2,460	285	2,508	7/	1,054	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/
Paraguay.....	16,483	-	10/ 40,600	-	10/ 32,300	-	10/ 20,400	-	10/ 15,300	-	-	-	-	-
Uruguay.....	323,623	44	235,830	-	249,855	-	294,356	-	221,694	-	-	-	-	-
Estimated total.....	2,034,700	2,700	1,732,500	2,500	1,540,300	1,200	1,383,400	7/	1,227,600	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/
AFRICA														
Madagascar.....	30,410	434	35,375	75	48,291	42	12,719	47	20,846	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/
Southern Rhodesia.....	18,601	186	11,180	1,149	7,113	1,493	8,823	1,888	7,500	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/
Union of South Africa.....	13,542	19,643	9,270	21,100	16,200	26,100	17,100	4,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Estimated total.....	62,500	20,300	55,800	22,300	71,600	27,600	38,600	5,900	38,300	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
OCEANIA														
Australia.....	495,742	7	491,314	-	529,843	-	466,279	-	366,068	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand.....	594,138	-	781,684	-	766,934	-	763,342	-	600,000	-	-	-	-	-
Estimated total.....	1,089,900	-	1,273,000	-	1,296,800	-	1,229,600	-	966,100	-	-	-	-	-
Estimated world total.....	4,550,000	4,146,800	4,416,800	4,273,800	3,996,400	3,635,300	4,142,400	3,947,400	4,033,100	3,521,600	3,521,600	3,521,600	3,521,600	3,521,600

1/ All meats converted to a carcass weight equivalent - includes beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, goat and horse meat; excludes live animals, edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Averages for years 1935-39. 4/ Includes Newfoundland, beginning April 1, 1949. 5/ Excludes exports of horse meat, which averaged 2 million pounds in 1935-39, 66 million in 1946-50, 33 million in 1949, 15 million in 1950 and 22 million in 1951. 6/ Averages for 2 to 4 years only. 7/ Not available. 8/ Estimated - based on exports from supplying countries reporting export by destination. 9/ Present territory for postwar years. 10/ Estimated - based on imports into receiving countries reporting imports by origin. 11/ Includes carcass meat equivalent of live cattle exports. 12/ Western Germany, beginning October 1, 1949. 13/ Averages for years 1931-35. 14/ Includes edible offal.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, and other available information. In postwar years some international trade, particularly imports, may have been excluded because of lack of information upon which to base estimates.

